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Security Council

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Letter dated 9 April 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government and with reference to the letters addressed to the President of the Security Council by the Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations, including the letters circulated in documents S/2008/296, S/2008/344, S/2008/609 and S/2009/145 and the annexes to the said letters, regarding the three Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf, I have the honour to state the following:

The Iranian islands of Abu Musa, Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb are integral and eternal parts of the Iranian territory, and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran categorically rejects any claim to the contrary, including the baseless claims raised in the said letters and their annexes. Moreover, my Government stresses that all measures taken by the Iranian authorities in those Iranian islands are fully based on the sovereign rights of Iran and the principle of its territorial integrity, and are in accordance with the ongoing arrangements emanating from the documents exchanged in 1971.

While stressing the importance of the brotherly and good-neighbourly relations that so happily exist between the two countries, the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to believe that constructive negotiations between the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the relevant officials of the United Arab Emirates will lead to the further expansion of relations in various fields and will help to remove any misunderstanding that may arise with regard to implementation of the arrangements emanating from the documents exchanged in 1971.

Moreover, the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to stress that the only correct and historically and universally recognized name for the sea area between Iran and the Arabian Peninsula, as also emphasized by the United Nations itself, is the Persian Gulf, and, accordingly, any use of fabricated names for this body of water, including the fabricated name used in the aforementioned letters of the Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations and their annexes, is totally groundless and absolutely unacceptable and is of no legal or political value.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Eshagh **Al Habib**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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